

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Patent Application of: )

Mark Epstein )

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned )

Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: December 4, 2001 )

For: A METHOD AND APPARATUS )  
FOR MANAGING A NETWORK )

US Patent and Trademark Office

Box Patent Application

P.O. Box 2327

Arlington, VA 22202

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application by inserting the following after the title.

**PRIORITY:**

--The present patent application claims priority to the corresponding provisional patent application serial no. 60/261,487, titled, "Method And Apparatus For Managing a Network" filed on January 12, 2001.--

REMARKS

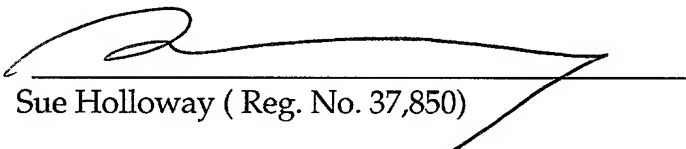
Applicants respectfully request consideration of the subject application as presented herein.

If there are any additional charges, please charge them to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666. If a telephone conference would facilitate the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Judith A. Szepesi at (408) 720-8300.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: DEC. 4, 2001

  
Sue Holloway ( Reg. No. 37,850)

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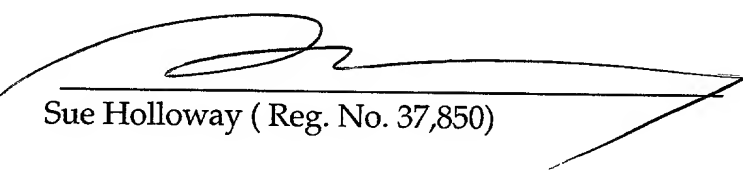
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